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• Member FDIC •

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FDIC San Francisco Regional Office 25 Jessie St. at Ecker Square, Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA 94105

## Gentlemen:

We are a 40 million dollar community bank in central Illinois. We have been chartered for forty years and have always been proud of our service to small businesses and local consumers. We have local competition from our big bank brothers, i.e. Wells Fargo, etc., as well as several nationally chartered credit unions.

Our city is about to be the home of another Wal-Mart Super Center.

However, if the FDIC permits Wal-Mart to become an insured banking enterprise, we fear that we and other small community banks will suffer the same fate as the many, many "mom and pop" stores that have evaporated since Wal-Mart has become so large and so "super"! We have already lost our local hardware stores and two grocery stores.

Educated people have believed for a long time that mixing banking and commerce is bad public policy. Common sense tells you that Wal-Mart would not and could not be impartial in allocation of credit. Additionally, how could they be regulated? How could the local store be examined for CRA?

Our nation's banks are doing a great job providing credit and financial services to our citizens. We are the envy of the world!

For the financial well being of the United States of America, please <u>do not</u> approve the Wal-Mart application for insurance of the Utah based ILC.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Community Bank of Galesburg

C. Dean Easten

C. Dean Easton Chairman & CEO

Galesburg's only <u>real</u> community bank!